

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B17/16

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 808 185 A (CHANDLER HUGH P ET AL) 28 February 1989 (1989-02-28) column 10, line 35 -column 11, line 30	1-3,14, 16
A	US 2 785 673 A (ROGER ANDERSON) 19 March 1957 (1957-03-19) the whole document	5,7-9
A	US 5 474 560 A (ROHR JR WILLIAM L) 12 December 1995 (1995-12-12) the whole document	1,4
P,X	WO 02 102254 A (ENGH GERARD ;JOHNSON WESLEY D (US)) 27 December 2002 (2002-12-27) page 28, line 25 -page 34, line 10; figures 48-54	1-3, 5-10,14, 16

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

12 March 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

27/03/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Angeli, M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/00191

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4808185	A	28-02-1989	NONE	
US 2785673	A	19-03-1957	NONE	
US 5474560	A	12-12-1995	NONE	
WO 02102254	A	27-12-2002	US 6482209 B1	19-11-2002
			US 2002193797 A1	19-12-2002
			WO 02102254 A2	27-12-2002
			US 2002198528 A1	26-12-2002